

'S' ENDORSEMENT STUDY TEST

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This document is intended to help provide a basic idea of items to study for the 20-question written test for the new "S" endorsement required to drive a yellow school bus. There are three different tests which may or may not contain questions that are similar to the following:

1. What is the distance for the danger zone around the bus?
 - a. 30' in front, 10' on each side, 12' to the rear.
 - b. 12' in front, 12' to the rear, 10' on each side.
 - c. 10' all the way around the bus.
 - d. 30' to the rear, 12' in front, 10' on each side.
2. The blind spot behind the bus could extend up to _____ feet depending on the width of the bus.
 - a. 200 feet
 - b. 300 feet
 - c. 150 feet
 - d. 400 feet
3. If the flat mirrors are properly adjusted you should be able to:
 - a. See 200 feet or 4 bus lengths behind the bus
 - b. See along the sides of the bus
 - c. See the rear tires touching the ground
 - d. all of the above
4. Convex mirrors present a view of people and objects that do not accurately reflect
 - a. their size and distance from the bus
 - b. their age and gender
 - c. both sides of the bus
5. Right and left side cross view mirrors are used to see
 - a. under the bus
 - b. the top of the bus
 - c. the danger zone behind the bus
 - d. the danger zone in front of the bus, both sides to include the service door and front wheels area.
6. The inside rear view mirror:
 - a. is used to monitor passenger activity inside the bus.
 - b. may provide limited visibility directly in back of the bus if the bus is equipped with a glass-bottomed rear emergency door.
 - c. allows the driver to monitor the blind spot area directly behind the drivers seat
 - d. All of the above.
7. The inside rear view mirror when properly adjusted will allow you to be able to see:

- a. all of the students, including the heads of the students right behind you.
 - b. the top of the rear window in the top of the mirror
 - c. both a. & b.
8. Who establishes official routes and official school bus stops?
- a. The office of Public Instruction
 - b. The bus company
 - c. The school district
 - d. You, the driver
9. The driver should never change the location of the bus stop without written approval from the appropriate school district official.
- a. True
 - b. False
 - c. Maybe
 - d. Seldom
10. Because of the danger and the demanding situation, you must use extreme caution when approaching a school bus stop.
- a. True
 - b. False
 - c. Maybe
 - d. Seldom
11. You should stop at least _____ feet back from the students waiting at the bus stop.
- a. 6 feet
 - b. 8 feet
 - c. 10 feet
 - d. 12 feet
12. When you come to a stop at a student loading area, you should:
- a. Place the transmission in park or if there is no park shift point, then in neutral and set the parking brake at each stop.
 - b. Put on the brake, put the transmission in neutral
 - c. Shift to first, put foot on brake
 - d. None of the above
13. You should make a final traffic check to ensure all traffic has stopped before opening the door all the way.
- a. True
 - b. False
14. You should pull to the far right of the traveled portion of the highway at a school bus stop?
- a. True

- b. False

(Montana best practice guidelines indicate that the driver should stay in the middle of the traveled portion to make sure that no one from behind passes the bus on the left. If this question is on the test the answer would be “True”. District or contractor policy should address this issue.)

15. When loading/unloading students at the school, the driver should:
 - a. Turn off the ignition switch
 - b. Leave the key in the ignition if leaving the drivers area
 - c. Stand outside the bus
 - d. None of the above
16. When unloading students and they are all accounted for, the driver should prepare to leave by:
 - a. Closing the door
 - b. Engaging the transmission
 - c. Releasing the parking brake, turning off the 8 ways, engaging the left turn signal, and checking the mirrors.
 - d. All of the above
17. If you miss a student's stop, is it ok to back up?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Yes, if the child is crying
 - d. Yes, if the parent is angry
18. When students cross the roadway, they must walk _____ feet in front of the bus and wait for the drivers signal
 - a. 6
 - b. 8
 - c. 11
 - d. 10
19. Once students reach the left edge of the bus when crossing the roadway, they should:
 - a. Stop, look for the drivers signal to continue
 - b. Look for traffic in both directions
 - c. Keep looking in both directions as they continue to cross
 - d. All of the above
20. When students drop objects outside the bus, they should go ahead and retrieve them.
 - a. True
 - b. False
21. When loading or unloading students and you can't account for them, you should:
 - a. Secure the bus by putting it in neutral, setting the parking brake on and taking the key.

- b. Go outside and check under & around the bus.
 - c. Both a. & b.
22. When you do a post trip inspection of the bus, you walk around inside and out checking for:
- a. Sleeping students
 - b. Articles left on the bus
 - c. Open windows and doors, mechanical problems
 - d. All of the above
23. When students exit the bus, you should check to make sure they are safely away from the bus.
- a. True
 - b. False
24. When should you evacuate the bus?
- a. Anytime you feel like it
 - b. Twice a year
 - c. Never
 - d. When the bus is on fire, threat of fire, stalled on tracks, or there is imminent danger of collision.
25. You should stop no closer than _____ feet or no further than _____ feet from the nearest rail at a railroad crossing.
- a. 10 to 20 feet
 - b. 15 to 75 feet
 - c. 15 to 50 feet
 - d. None of the above

(Montana law states “no closer than 15 feet”. The law used to say “15 to 50” feet. For this test the answer would be c.)

26. A passive crossing is where there are controls.
- a. True
 - b. False
27. Passive crossings have yellow circular advance warning signs.
- a. True
 - b. False
28. The number below a cross buck sign tells you what?
- a. the number of trains that cross here
 - b. the number of tracks
 - c. the number of times you must stop
 - d. none of the above

29. On approaching the tracks, you must activate your hazard lamps _____ feet before the crossing.
- 150
 - 200
 - 300
 - 350
30. When stopped at the crossing, it is recommended that you:
- place the transmission in park or neutral, keep your foot on the service brake or set the parking brake
 - down shift to first and be ready to cross
 - put the transmission in neutral, set the parking brake and take your foot off the service brake.
31. You must cross the tracks without shifting?
- True
 - False
32. When you are at a crossing that has a containment area or storage area, you must as a general rule, add _____ feet to your bus length.
- 10
 - 20
 - 30
 - 15
33. A driver should never remove a student at a place other than the designated stop.
- True
 - False
34. What buses are required to have anti-lock braking?
- Air brake vehicles built on or March 1, 1998.
 - Hydraulically braked trucks and buses with a gross vehicle weight rating of 10,000 lbs. or more built on or after March 1, 1999.
 - None of the above.
 - Both a & b.
35. How can you tell if your bus is equipped with ABS brakes?
- You can't.
 - There is a yellow ABS Malfunction Lamp on the instrument panel.
 - There is a switch on the dash.
 - You have to look at the back of the wheel.
36. ABS brakes helps a driver to:
- avoid wheel lock up and maintain control.
 - Stop faster
 - Doesn't help

- d. Who cares if I have ABS brakes?
37. When you drive a vehicle with ABS, you should:
- a. brake as always
 - b. never pump the brakes
 - c. when slowing the bus, monitor your bus and back off the brakes to stay in control.
 - d. All of the above.
38. If your ABS fails then you must:
- a. stop driving the bus
 - b. drive it as though the brakes were still working
 - c. drive normally because you still have regular brakes
 - d. none of the above.
39. When should you use strobe lights?
- a. When you are told to.
 - b. Never!!
 - c. During periods of limited visibility.
 - d. When ever you want to.
40. When driving in strong winds you should:
- a. keep a strong grip on the steering wheel
 - b. slow down or pull off the roadway and wait
 - c. contact your dispatcher to get more information on how to proceed
 - d. all of the above
41. If you should have to back up a school bus, you should:
- e. back up only when students are on the bus and never with them outside!
 - f. Anytime.
 - g. Use a student as a spotter outside.
 - h. Dispatch will tell you what to do.
42. A school bus can have up to a _____ tail swing.
- a. 1 foot
 - b. 2 foot
 - c. 3 foot
 - d. 6 foot

Official Study Guides will be available at the DMV by the 1st of June.